APRIL 15, 1963

FRANCE MODERNIZES
ITS AGRICULTURE

LES HALLES
LEAVING PARIS

FOREIGN AGRICULTURE

Including FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

THE UNIVERSITY
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APRIL 15, 1963

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Many French housewives, as shown in this poultry market in Burgundy, like to buy their chickens alive, to dress at home.

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With this article, Foreign Agriculture *introduces a series on the agricultural policies of the Common Market countries—France, West Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium-Luxembourg, and Italy.*

France Moves To Modernize Its Agriculture

—because of its big stake in the Common Market

Threshing wheat in Limagne

By HARRY HENDERSON
Foreign Market Information
Foreign Agricultural Service

France, already the biggest food producer in Western Europe, has embarked on a program to step up output even more. In making this move, France hopes to raise incomes of its farm people and, at the same time, assure reasonable food prices for industrial workers and other groups.

The new French plan is based on two assumptions. First, the government believes it can greatly increase production by improving the efficiency of agricultural production and marketing. Second, the French are confident that most of their expanded output can be sold within the Common Market. President DeGaulle himself made a judgment on that in his famous January 14 press conference when he said, "We (the French) cannot conceive of a Common Market in which French agriculture would not find outlets commensurate with its production, and we agree, moreover, that, among the six, we are the country for which this necessity is the most imperative."

All this is of interest—and concern—to the United States, which, like France, has a stake in the Common Market as a market. In fiscal year 1962 the Common Market was an outlet for $1.2 billion worth of U.S. farm products—almost a fourth of total U.S. agricultural shipments and a third of the farm products the United States sold abroad for dollars.

The French program already is in operation. The schedule calls for an overall production increase of 30 percent by 1965 as compared with output in 1959. Largest increases are sought for grain, (especially barley and corn), poultry meat, beef and veal, oilseeds, and sugar.

Measures to modernize French agriculture, essential to success of the new scheme, are based to some extent on the Orientation Law of 1960, but most actions are being taken under the Complementary Law of 1962, often referred to as the "Pisani Law," in honor of Edgard Pisani, French Minister of Agriculture. The program is getting substantial funds from the government and has the support of French agriculture.

The expansion program has many facets, but its key features can be summarized simply:

1. Small farms and tracts, of which France has many, are being consolidated into larger, more efficient production units through a new land acquisition system. Idle land is being put into production.

2. Older farmers producing on small farms are being encouraged with special pensions to sell their land—for consolidation into larger units—and retire. Younger farmers are being given an opportunity to buy the consolidated, larger farms on favorable terms, and are being offered other inducements to continue farming.

3. Government credit is being made available more freely.

4. Agricultural education and extension services are being strengthened.

5. Marketing is being improved.

Farmer attitudes

The new program reflects the basic objective of French agricultural policy—to raise the level of living for the rural population to the level enjoyed by nonfarm people. French agricultural policy, in turn, reflects farmer attitudes. Many French farmers are discontented. They feel that the prosperity the Common Market has brought to French industry has pretty largely passed them by. They want the government to "do something about it." Initiation of the expansion program shows that the government, responsive to farmer attitudes, *is* doing something about it.

In France, close to 25 percent of the total labor force is employed on farms. Opinions of a group that large are listened to in government circles. French farmers make their opinions known to the government—not only through their farm organizations, which are powerful, and through their representatives in the government, but also—occasionally—through demonstrations.

Last year when artichoke prices declined sharply, farmers in the town of St. Pol-de-Léon dumped tons of the vegetables in the streets. The unrest subsided when the French Government started to pay a subsidy on exports of fresh and canned artichokes. Farmers also have demonstrated in recent years against low prices of potatoes, peaches, milk, and other commodities.

(To combat market gluts, the new Complementary Law authorizes establishment of price floors and production quotas if 70 percent of an area's producers can agree on the price and production levels. If price floors and quotas receive a favorable vote, all producers of the area must go along. This "escape valve" provision is somewhat similar to U.S. marketing agreement and order legislation.)

The French *cultivateur* argues that farming should be left to farmers—and he doesn't mean "gentlemen farmers." Last year in Normandy several hundred farmers assembled on land belonging to Jean Gabin, French movie actor, to protest not only the size of his holdings but also the fact that he makes most of his income before the lens and not behind the plow. Gabin was inclined at first to sell off some of his land. But he had second thoughts about that. At last report, he had engaged a lawyer to protect his interests.

French farmer pressure has brought an end to vertical integration by nonfarmers, at least until the Common Market's common agricultural policy becomes fully effective. A butcher or sausage-maker, for example, will not be allowed to raise the hogs he slaughters; he must buy them from "farmers." It is all right for farmers to sell sausage and other products processed on their own farms.

Against "market access"

The French farmer strongly opposes imports of farm products which can be produced in France. Therefore he looks with high favor on the Common Market's variable import levies, which are helping to protect him against imports of wheat, wheat flour, feed grains, poultry, and other commodities produced in "outside" countries—including the United States. What the United States refers to as "market access," he tends to think of as "dumping."

A French farm organization recently made public a strongly worded resolution summarizing farmer thinking about imports from non-Common Market countries. The resolution objected to any comparison between "world" prices of farm products and European prices; rejected the argument that European agriculture is inefficient; denied that European agriculture indulges in "exaggerated protectionism"; protested alleged economic and political pressures of "rich countries" to gain access to the Common Market; and emphasized that it would be "nonsense to sacrifice European agriculture in order to facilitate exports of surpluses from overproducing countries outside the EEC." Several French farm journals reprinted the resolution.

French farmers also are nervous about the competition they face from Common Market partners. They are be-

Sugar beets waiting processing at Neuilly-les-Dijon. Next to USSR, France is Europe's No. 1 beet producer.

ginning to realize that they must compete in their home market with Italian growers of fruit and vegetables and Dutch producers of dairy products. French farm leaders point to this competition as high-lighting the need for structural improvements in the nation's agriculture.

Output vs. prices

France has good reasons for boosting farm incomes by raising output rather than price supports.

In the first place, the government always must steer a careful course between the interests of agriculture and labor. The government is mindful that a fourth of the French workers are in agriculture—but is even more aware that three-fourths of the people are nonfarmers and therefore tries to keep food prices at reasonable levels. Many French wage contracts are tied to the cost of living. Substantial increases in retail food prices could well touch off an inflationary spiral. As recent strikes in the coal fields of northern France have shown, a disparity between take-home pay and living costs leads to labor unrest.

Second, the government knows that high prices hurt the competitive position of France as a food supplier to the

Common Market. The United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and some other outside suppliers are efficient food producers, and can furnish the Common Market a wide variety of items at reasonable cost. France eventually must meet outside competition pricewise as well as with barriers like variable import levies and gate prices.

Third, it is obvious that increased price supports for French farm products would not materially raise farm incomes for most producers. According to the most recent census figures, about 80 percent of French farms are smaller than 50 acres, and 17 percent are less than 5 acres. The volume of production per farm, therefore, is relatively small. Many farmers would still have income problems even if prices they received for their products were doubled.

Better use of land

"Fragmentation" of French farm land, tracing to inheritance laws put on the books by Napoleon Bonaparte, is getting particular attention in the production expansion

Above, gathering peaches in Provence, and left, farm youngster feeds the chickens. Fruit and poultry are both slated for increase under country's new farm program.

program. The government is trying to reverse a process that has been going on for over 150 years.

In every region of France a land agency functioning under joint public-private direction has been or is being established. Each agency, called a *Société d'Aménagement Fonciers et d'Equipment Rural*—or SAFER—has the right in most cases to pre-empt land as it comes on the market, to consolidate small holdings, and to resell the larger units to new buyers on favorable terms. The government also has the right to take over idle land, an important authority, as there are some 10.6 million acres on which taxes have not been paid or whose owners are not known. The law also limits the number of acres a single farmer or farm group can own or operate. Early in 1963, a total of 29 SAFER's had been or were being established, covering most of rural France.

The program is affecting people as well as land. The government would like to see fewer farmers on the land—and is encouraging older farmers to shift out of, and younger farmers to get into, farming. Older farmers are being pensioned off when they sell their land to the SAFER's. These pensions, from a special fund—*Fonds d'Action Sociale pour l'Aménagement des Structures Agricoles,* or FASASA, are in addition to family allowances, old age pensions, and social insurance provided all French people under other legislation.

The fund also will be used to set up new industries in connection with agriculture. Farmers taking over the land are being given assistance of various types—credits, discounts on machinery and tractor fuel, technical training, and the like—to help them become established. Farm

All photos, French Ministry of Agriculture

Left, open-air fruit and vegetable market in south of France, and above, neighborhood meat store in Paris.

people unable to obtain land are being helped to settle in industry or business. Furthermore, agricultural credit has been liberalized, and agricultural education and extension services greatly strengthened.

New markets for old

Market reorganization is one phase of the new program that will be most apparent to American visitors to France. Les Halles, ancient market in the heart of Paris, is being moved out of the city. The produce sections are being moved to modern quarters near Orly Airport and the meat market facilities to a location north of the city.

National markets—*marchés nationaux*—are being established in the main population centers of France. Small versions of Les Halles, six of these have been built and eight more either are being constructed or are in the blueprint stage. The government also hopes to eliminate small private slaughter houses and concentrate on larger units which can utilize all animal byproducts.

The government is giving cooperatives, farm organizations, and other agricultural societies authority to merge in any given area for the marketing of farm products. The new groups, called *Comités Economiques Agricoles,* also have authority to enforce rules of quality.

Market reorganization is moving forward on an overall basis through an agency—*Fonds d'Orientation et de Regularisation des Marchés Agricoles* (FORMA)—set up in 1960. In the past 3 years, government assistance to FORMA has amounted to over $360 million.

Will the French plan work?

Economically modernization is sound. There can be no arguing with efficiency. And efficiency is the foundation on which this part of the French program is based. Over the long run it should benefit French agriculture. The government, determined that the plan work out, has been generous with finances. Since 1960 a total of almost $3,350 million of government funds has been plowed into agriculture—a respectable sum for a nation of 46 million.

Time, however, is of the essence. The program will produce results slowly. Agriculture Minister Pisani himself has said that French agriculture needs at least 10 years of improvement and modernization before it can face the competition of efficient producers in other parts of the world. The French farmer, never patient, may not be willing to wait that long for the better life promised him in the Common Market.

The land consolidation program already has run into some problems. In some areas, for example, good lands have been planted to timber. SAFER's cannot expropriate this land, and probably cannot force the owners to sell.

As the United States has learned, high production efficiency enhances the possibility of surpluses accumulating. France is running that risk. France already has surpluses of dairy products, wheat, and some other commodities.

Whether prices can be held to reasonable levels is a question. There is pressure from farm groups for higher prices. The government has been countering this pressure by holding out to farmers the idea that the Common Market is his salvation. If the Common Market does not absorb French production readily, pressure for higher prices will increase.

France will not decide the common level of prices to be set within the Common Market by 1970. Other voices also will be heard. Today, France has the lowest farm product prices in the Community, Germany the highest. Presumably, the common prices eventually established will be somewhere between the French and German levels. French officials hope—and U.S. leaders join them in the wish—that common prices will be closer to French levels than to the German.

If the French system of moderate food prices breaks down, consumers undoubtedly will become restless. Outlays for food constitute a third of consumers' annual expenditures. High prices, therefore, would focus attention on the desirability of bringing in reasonably priced food from non-Common Market countries—the United States and elsewhere.

The last word obviously has not been written. It won't be for a long time to come. In the meantime, it behooves all "outside" countries selling to the Common Market to keep a sharp eye on French agriculture. France intends to be an even bigger "inside" supplier—and is taking steps to consolidate its position.

Famous "Les Halles" Market To Leave Paris

After centuries in the heart of the French capital, this historic market will be replaced by a vast new food center south of the city.

By HOWARD A. AKERS
Assistant U.S. Agricultural Attaché, Paris

Situated in the heart of Paris is one of the most famous markets in the world—Les Halles. While the city sleeps, food from all over France pours into this centuries-old market, and so colorful is the early morning scene that few tourists leave Paris without visiting Les Halles and its nearby restaurants.

Picturesque as it is, the French Government has decided that the market must leave Paris so that marketing of agricultural products may keep pace with other developments envisaged by the government as the result of the common agricultural policy of the Common Market.

Last July, French Prime Minister, Georges Pompidou, signed a decree to transfer Les Halles from Paris to Rungis and Chevilly-Larue, about 20 kilometers south of Paris. The decree specifies that the move will take place by January 1966.

This is not by any means the first attempt to rid the city of Les Halles, but it may be the first successful one. As far back as the XVI Century, Francis I stated that he would like "to kick the Halles market out of his good town." Napoleon I issued a decree to oust it, claiming that "small merchants and buyers gather in the streets considerably disturbing traffic." Nothing happened, and in 1850 Napoleon III rebuilt the market entirely, so that for many years it stood as an example of one of the world's fine markets.

Today, the present Halles market serves from 7 million to 8 million people in Paris and the vicinity and handles around 2 million metric tons of produce a year. To operate at all, the market must work at maximum efficiency. The produce starts arriving before midnight, and sales are completed, except resales, by mid-morning. Normal traffic is prohibited in the area, and so great is the hustle and bustle that it is even difficult to cross the market on foot during the hours from 1:00 until 7:00 in the morning. Shortly after the close of the market a small army of workers begins the daily clean-up, and by 2:00 in the afternoon the area is again relatively quiet.

The question that naturally arises is, why, after so many unsuccessful attempts to move Les Halles, the present French Government has been able to overcome resistance to this action? The answer does not lie entirely in the market's being outdated and overcrowded. Rather it is a reflection of what is taking place in French agriculture.

France's primary purpose today is to adapt its agriculture to the future European economy in such a manner that its partners in the Common Market will accept France's "incontestable right" to be the main food supplier of the Community. The transfer of the Halles market is simply one part of the overall plan to modernize French agriculture. It indicates a great change in agricultural policy as well as a change in the pace of the country's economic activity.

The new market will evolve on a grand scale. The market buildings will cover an area of about 125 acres, more than twice as large as the present Halles, and will be at the heart of a redistribution food center, covering 426 acres. It will be equipped with a railroad station, a network of rail lines and truck routes, and a modern communication system. This elaborate set-up will make it possible to efficiently handle large volumes of food and to divert surplus to the other Common Market countries if

Often called "the stomach of Paris," Les Halles has existed as a market since the 12th Century. In the early morning hours restaurant people and shopkeepers come to buy the fresh produce and meats shipped in from all over France.

a glut develops in the domestic market.

While additional facilities are envisaged in the new market, the number of commodities to be handled through the market will be reduced. The meat operation that has operated in the present Halles market is now being regrouped at the La Villette market on the outskirts of Paris. Over half of the total tonnage of commodities now passing through the Paris market is made up of fruits and vegetables, but many food products, including meat, are also to be found there.

For many Parisians—in fact, for all of France—the passing of Les Halles will be a sad occasion, representing as it does a break with another ancient tradition. Yet they recognize that this is a new age—the Common Market age—and they see that all over France other big, new markets are springing up to speed the distribution of food. The French housewife realizes too, that while she still purchases butter and eggs at one store and beef at another, the supermarkets are rapidly coming in and that all likelihood she will soon be shopping in them.

World Cocoa Agreement Moves One Step Nearer

The FAO Cocoa Study Group, which met March 25-30 in Trinidad, unanimously approved asking the United Nations to set up a conference in 1963 to negotiate an International Cocoa Agreement. The conference will be held later this year at either Geneva or New York.

Attending the Trinidad conference were representatives from the 21 major cocoa producing and consuming countries. They reached considerable agreement on a number of major points, such as treatment to be accorded flavor cocoa, and the position of small producers vis-à-vis major producers. However, as expected, price levels were found to be the most difficult problem, with producers and consumers differing about 6 cents a pound on a "reasonable" minimum price. This will undoubtedly be the hardest point to resolve before an international cocoa agreement can be reached at the negotiating conference.

1963 British Farm Price Review Holds Most Guarantees at Last Year's Levels

The prices that the United Kingdom will guarantee its farmers for certain of their products in 1963-64 will be little changed, according to an announcement by the government in mid-March. The way some of the guarantees will be carried out, however, will lower returns to farmers.

Observers had awaited the announcement with particular interest because Britain's guarantees had figured in the breakdown of negotiations for the country's entry into the Common Market early this year. Also, this review may be the last before the next general election.

The price changes were for milk, potatoes, wheat, and barley. Milk guarantees were increased by $0.05 per gallon, and were justified on the basis of an indicated improved balance between production and fluid milk consumption. Potato guarantees were increased $1.25 per ton. The wheat price was lowered $0.03 per bushel, and the barley price, $0.05.

Wheat and barely prices were reduced because of the very large increases in grain yields and production in recent years. The larger reduction in barley prices is at least partly due to the relatively recent large increases in the barley acreage and production as well as sharp increases in the Exchequer cost for barley in 1962-63.

Changes in implementation are for egg and hog guarantees. For eggs, an "indicator price system" is being introduced. In effect, it will tend to limit Exchequer costs for eggs and will lower per unit returns for them if production continues to increase. The Farmers Union estimates that producers in 1963-64 will receive ½ cent per dozen less than last year.

In the past the basic hog guaranteed price was subject to adjustments in accordance with the outlook for domestic pig production. The higher the production expected the lower the guaranteed price actually extended to farmers. The 1963 review provided for steeper adjustments of these prices. In effect, the innovation results in an April 1964 guaranteed price $1.40 per 100 pounds below what would have been prescribed under the former scheme. Still another change of significance is the lowering of the payment from $19.60 to $14.00 per acre for the plowing of permanent grassland for crop production.

Essentially, the U.K. agricultural program has been one whereby the government guarantees to farmers a return for their products while permitting imports to move relatively freely into the United Kingdom. Generally, the difference between the guaranteed return and the actual market price has been paid to the individual producers in the form of government deficiency payment. Thereby, consumers have been assured of food prices consistent with import prices of agricultural products.

UNITED KINGDOM GUARANTEED PRICES

Item	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	Change
	Dollars	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*
Fat cattle (per 100 lbs. live weight)	20.88	20.88	20.88	none
Fat sheep and lambs (per 100 lbs. carcass weight)	45.50	44.00	44.00	none
Fat pigs [1] (per 100 pounds deadweight)	31.45	31.45	31.45	none
Hen eggs [1] (per dozen)	.53	.52	.52	none
Wool (per pound)	.62	.62	.62	none
Milk (per gallon)	.45	.44	.45	up .05
Potatoes (per short ton)	33.12	33.12	34.37	up 1.25
Sugar beets (per short tone, 16 percent sugar content)	15.58	15.58	15.58	none
Wheat (per bu.)	2.02	2.02	1.00	down .03
Barley (per bu.)	1.65	1.65	1.60	down .05
Oats (per bu.)	1.10	1.10	1.10	none
Rye (per bu.)	1.51	1.51	1.51	none

[1] On basis of current feed prices. Source: 1962 and 1963 Annual Review and Determination of Guarantees. Conversion rate: 1 pound = $2.80.

Turkey To Get First Soybean Oil Sold By Own Name in an Olive Oil Country

Turkish consumers are now being introduced to *Soya,* the first packaged soybean oil sold as such in an olive oil producing country.

Prior to this year, Turkish imports of soybean oil have been used only in margarine and shortening products and in soap. The United States, the major supplier of these oils, will also furnish the oil for *Soya.*

The Soybean Council of America has spent 3 years in paving the way for the new product. Before *Soya* could be placed on the market, Turkey's olive oil producers had to be convinced that worldwide demand for olive oil would protect their interests from soybean oil competition. The Council also initiated a public education program to improve nutritional standards among the people by stressing the value of more edible oils in the diet. Olive oil, twice as expensive as soybean oil, has been beyond the reach of many low-income consumers.

The Council is now considering a campaign to promote *Soya* itself, to be financed and carried out by the Council and an agency of the Turkish government. The program would concentrate on large towns such as Istanbul, Ankara, and Izmir, since a large portion of the rural population makes and consumes its own output of olive oil and animal fats.

Campaign methods being considered include demonstrations in department and grocery stores of food cooked with *Soya,* distribution of recipe books using soybean oil; publicizing of *Soya* in newspapers, magazines, radio and movies; and, participation in trade fairs.

Turkey signed a new 3-year Title I, P.L. 480 agreement in March for the purchase of over $60 million in cottonseed and soybean oils. Additional oil may be purchased as the market for the product develops and as *Soya* becomes more well-known.

Cotton Week To Open In 23 Japanese Cities

The 8th annual Cotton Week in Japan to promote the sale of cottons will be held this month and next in 23 major Japanese cities. This is the biggest of five key campaigns planned by the Japan Cotton Promotion Institute (JCPI) in 1963.

Cooperating with the JCPI in Cotton Week will be local trade associations, Cotton Council International, FAS, and the new Japan Cotton Center—participating for the first time.

An estimated 7,000 firms (retail shops, department stores, and wholesale houses) will sponsor local "Miss Cotton" contests, cotton sales, motor parades, cotton shows, and various design competitions. To spur consumer interest, the event is being widely publicized through newspaper, radio, and television advertising.

Arkansas Grain Co-op Receives "E" Award

A Presidential "E" Award has gone to the Arkansas Grain Corporation of Stuttgart, Arkansas, for launching, without previous experience, a successful overseas sales operation in soybean products.

Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman presented the award to L. C. Carter, executive vice president and general manager of the corporation, at a Washington meeting of the National Federation of Grain Co-ops.

Guatemalan Bakers Get U.S. Wheat Scholarship

(l. to r.) Brígido Cabrera, Oscar Estrada, and Ricardo Cárdenas will teach baking after studies in Bogotá school.

The awarding of baker's-school scholarships to three Guatemalan bakers is the most recent step in the U.S. wheat industry's first market development program in Central America. The program had been kicked off in March with a U.S. baking exhibit at the Second International Exposition in Guatemala.

Joint participants in the overall campaign are: Great Plains Wheat, Inc., the National Flour Producers Association, FAS, the Guatemalan Ministry of Education.

The bakers had been selected from among 260 applicants through written and practical examinations relating to the baking industry. Upon completion of 3 month's advanced training at a baker's school in Bogotá, Colombia, the men will return to Guatemala and teach at the Escuela de Panificacion (Technical Vocational Institute), recently established by the sponsoring organizations.

The Institute, first of its kind in Central America, aims to teach modern, sanitary methods to Guatemala's baking industry. Also, it hopes to raise the country's nutritional levels by introducing improved wheat products. A mobile unit is being planned to demonstrate modern baking techniques throughout the country.

Guatemala is one of the most important dollar markets for U.S. wheat in Latin America, importing an average of $4 million per year.

Chile's Canned Fruit Pack Increasing

Canned deciduous fruit production in Chile is expected to total over 600 cases in 1963, a considerable increase over previous years. Canned peaches are by far the largest of the canned fruit items, with the 1963 pack estimate slightly over 500,000 cases. After declining for several years, canned fruit production seems to be on the increase.

Export of canned fruit from Chile is limited to small quantities of canned peaches. Peru is the main outlet, with small shipments also going to Europe.

CANNED FRUIT: CHILE, ESTIMATED PRODUCTION

Item	1959	1960	1961	1962	Forecast 1963
	1,000 [1] cases	*1,000 [1] cases*	*1,000 [1] cases*	*1,000 [1] cases*	*1,000 [1] cases*
Apricots	23,240	14,230	13,584	22,791	37,878
Cherries	45,490	27,855	26,590	44,612	74,144
Papaya	3,708	2,271	2,168	3,637	6,044
Peaches	308,794	189,078	180,495	302,830	503,294
Pears	9,889	6,055	5,780	9,698	16,118
Quince	1,236	757	723	1,212	2,015
Others	29,174	17,863	17,052	28,606	47,549
Total	421,531	258,109	246,392	413,386	687,072

[1] 1 case equals 24 No. 2½ cans.

CHILE'S EXPORTS OF CANNED PEACHES

Destination	Average 1954-58	1959	1960	1961	Preliminary 1962
	1,000 [1] cases	*1,000 [1] cases*	*1,000 [1] cases*	*1,000 [1] cases*	*1,000 [1] cases*
Europe					
Denmark	0.9	—	1.4	1.7	—
Germany	1.7	7.9	14.6	5.5	—
Other	.2	1.9	.1	—	—
Total	2.8	9.8	16.1	7.2	—
Latin American Republics					
Peru	23.0	58.3	92.7	90.0	89.3
Others	.2	.2	.3	.4	.1
Total	23.2	58.5	93.0	90.4	89.4
Other countries	1.0	.5	—	—	—
Grand total	27.0	68.8	109.1	97.6	89.4

[1] 1 case equals 24 No. 2½ cans.

Argentine Dried Prune Pack Smaller

The 1963 dried prune pack in Argentina is estimated at 7,200 short tons, a 500-ton decrease from last year's production. Average 1956-60 production was 6,900 tons.

The size and quality of this year's pack are reported to be fairly good, although not quite as good as last year's. This is mostly due to rains which occurred before and during harvesttime. Most of the prunes graded 60/70 in size and showed little damage from disease or hail. The sugar content, however, is somewhat lower.

Export prospects are reported to be good this year, both to Brazil and Europe. The reduced production, however, may result in a slight drop in exports during 1963 compared with the 4,300 short tons shipped in 1962.

ARGENTINA'S DRIED PRUNE EXPORTS BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION, 1959-62

Destination	1959	1960	1961	1962 [1]
	Short tons	*Short tons*	*Short tons*	*Short tons*
Europe				
Bel.-Lux.	—	12	17	36
Finland	—	86	26	25
France	—	—	1	—
Germany, West	215	801	277	702
Ireland	16	31	4	11
Italy	—	61	12	—
Netherlands	154	423	10	65
Norway	3	235	58	71
Sweden	6	39	19	—
United Kingdom	167	482	38	47
Total	561	2,170	462	957
So. America				
Bolivia	1	—	10	3
Brazil	2,174	1,937	2,823	2,183
Paraguay	14	12	14	4
Peru	43	68	21	137
Venezuela	4	24	—	—
Other Countries	51	359	13	8
Grand total	2,848	4,570	3,343	3,292

[1] 10 months, January-October.

Argentina Has Larger Canned Fruit Pack

Argentina's 1963 pack of canned deciduous fruits is estimated at slightly over 2 million cases, 24 2½ basis.

CANNED DECIDUOUS FRUIT: ARGENTINA, ESTIMATED PRODUCTION, 1961-63

Item	1961	1962	1963
	1,000 [1] cases	*1,000 [1] cases*	*1,000 [1] cases*
Apricots	30	25	24
Cherries	24	29	32
Fruit cocktail	27	13	14
Fruit salad	147	74	74
Peaches	1,531	1,715	1,813
Pears	98	49	48
Total	1,857	1,905	2,005

[1] 1 case equals 24 No. 2½ cans.

The canned peach pack, estimated at 1.8 million cases, continues to increase. Canners this season are anticipating continued strong domestic demand and probable increase in exports. Due to the sharp devaluation of the peso in midyear, exports during 1962, with a total of 118,000 cases, were more than double the early season predictions. Shipments during the 1963 season may double those of 1962 but still not reach the 1961 level.

ARGENTINE CANNED PEACHES: 1960-1963

Item	1960-61	1961-62	1962-63
	1,000 [1] cases	*1,000 [1] cases*	*1,000 [1] cases*
Supply			
Beginning stocks, Dec. 1	98	15	142
Production	1,531	1,715	1,813
Total supply	1,629	1,730	1,955
Distribution			
Domestic disappearance	1,320	1,470	1,540
Exports	294	118	250
Ending stocks, Nov. 30	15	142	165
Total distribution	1,629	1,730	1,955

[1] 1 case equals 24 No. 2½ cans.

West Germany and the United Kingdom are the most important markets for Argentine canned peaches. In Latin America, Brazil and Venezuela are the big markets.

Small Raisin Pack in Argentina

The 1963 Argentine dried raisin pack is estimated at 3,400 short tons, slightly smaller than the 1962 pack of 3,500 tons. Average 1956-60 production was 6,100 tons.

The quality of this year's raisin pack is reported not up to the high level of a year ago because of heavy rains occurring at harvesttime.

Exports of raisins in 1963 are expected to drop substantially from 1,310 tons in 1962 and 1,433 tons in 1961.

ARGENTINA'S RAISIN SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION

Item	1961	1962	Forecast 1963
	Short tons	*Short tons*	*Short tons*
Beginning stocks, Jan. 1	1,100	1,600	300
Production	5,900	3,500	3,400
Total supply	7,000	5,100	3,700
Exports	1,400	1,300	600
Domestic disappearance	4,000	3,500	3,100
Ending Stocks, Dec. 31	1,600	300	—
Total distribution	7,000	5,100	3,700

Japan Sets Orange, Grapefruit Imports

The Japanese Government has announced a global allocation of $300,000 for imports of oranges and grapefruit under the Fund Allocation licensing system—the first funds of that type to be granted. They will be made available for payment on shipments made within 4 months.

Past imports of oranges and grapefruit have been permitted only under special allocations made periodically to hotels and restaurants for meeting foreign tourist needs. The $300,000 grant represents a considerable increase over the special tourist funds.

1963 Chilean Dried Prune Pack Equals 1962

The 1963 Chilean prune pack is forecast at 5,500 short tons, which would equal the 1962 harvest. Average 1956-60 production was 5,500 tons.

According to trade reports, the quality is expected to be good but the size will be smaller than the preceding year; the average size will be around 60/70 per pound.

During 1962, Chile exported 3,311 short tons of dried prunes, down slightly from the 3,357 tons shipped in 1961. Exports in 1963 are expected to be similar to those of 1962.

CHILE'S EXPORTS OF DRIED PRUNES BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION, 1959-62

Destination	1959	1960	1961	1962
	Short tons	*Short tons*	*Short tons*	*Short tons*
Europe				
Denmark	592	948	608	760
Finland	7	138	32	—
Germany, West	329	557	399	529
Italy	18	164	71	33
Netherlands	357	550	231	343
United Kingdom	1,135	772	1,580	1,376
Others	3	34	134	25
Total Europe	2,441	3,163	3,055	3,066
So. America				
Brazil	—	—	—	4
Peru	308	51	287	131
Other Countries	5	47	15	110
Grand Total	2,754	3,261	3,357	3,311

Export prices for 1963-crop dried prunes are practically the same as those of 1962.

EXPORT PRICES FOR CHILEAN DRIED PRUNES, FOB CHILEAN PORTS, 1961-63

Size	1961	1962	1963
	Cents per lb.	*Cents per lb.*	*Cents per lb.*
30/40	25.6	27.1	27.1
40/50	24.1	25.7	25.7
50/60	22.8	23.9	24.0
60/70	21.4	22.4	22.4
70/80	20.0	21.1	21.2
80/90	19.0	20.0	20.0
90/over	17.0	18.0	18.6

Switzerland Imports More Rice

Rice imports into Switzerland in 1962, at 32,254 metric tons, exceeded 1961 by 3,096 tons.

Nearly eight-tenths came from Italy, principally in the form of milled rice. The United States ranked next as a supplier, with 15 percent of the total. All categories imported from the United States were larger than before.

SWITZERLAND'S RICE IMPORTS 1956-62

Country of origin	Average 1956-60	1961	1962
	Metric tons	*Metric tons*	*Metric tons*
Italy:			
Semi-milled	17,272	22,635	23,460
Milled	3,628	1,263	[1] 1,906
Total	20,900	23,898	25,366
United States:			
Semi-milled	458	1,777	1,823
Milled	1,590	1,701	[1] 2,950
Total	2,048	3,478	4,773
Other countries:			
Semi-milled	1,024	149	445
Milled	1,489	1,633	[1] 1,670
Total	2,513	1,782	2,115
Total all rice:			
Semi-milled	18,754	24,561	25,728
Milled	6,707	4,597	[1] 6,526
Total	25,461	29,158	32,254

[1] Includes negligible amounts of broken rice.

Statistique Mensuelle du Commerce Exterieur.

Japan Will Buy Pulses

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) is expected to allocate about $10 million for pulse imports between now and the 1963 pulse harvest in September and October.

It is not anticipated that any of these funds will be earmarked for purchase from Communist China, but eligible license guarantees reportedly have volunteered to hold some of the funds for the purchase of Chinese beans.

Japan's usual pulse sources are reported to be depleted except in the United States where bean prices are considered high by the Japanese.

Canada Announces 1962 Wool Payment

The Canadian Minister of Agriculture announced that the government's wool deficiency payment to growers for 1962 will be 18.2 cents (16.8 cents U.S.) per pound on about 5.7 million pounds of wool produced last year. The

1961 payment was 22 cents per pound (20.3 cents U.S. at the current rate of exchange).

The wool deficiency payment in Canada is calculated as the difference between the 6-cent support price and the combined average market price per pound (f.o.b. Toronto) for the basic grades: Western Range Choice, half blood staple; Eastern Domestic, quarter blood staple.

Ethiopia Improving Meat Export Industry

The Ethiopian National Meat Corporation, as part of the livestock industry's overall effort to improve production and increase exports, recently issued 21,500 common shares to raise money for development and research.

The shares will increase the Corporation's capital from its present $140,000 to $1 million. One of Ethiopia's government control boards has guaranteed to purchase any stock that is not bought by the people. The Corporation has advertised that it expects a 10-percent return in 1963 and a 12.5-percent return in 1964. It plans to have the construction of a new slaughterhouse and freezing facilities completed early this year.

An additional improvement of the Ethiopian livestock industry will be supplied through an agreement with the British Freedom from Hunger Campaign to equip six badly needed veterinary stations at various sites—a project under the overall sponsorship of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization and the Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture.

The majority of Ethiopian meat products are exported to Aden, Saudi Arabia, and Israel.

Belgium's Trade in Dairy Products

Exports from Belgium of dairy products in 1962 were greater than in 1961 for dried milk, cheese, and canned milk; butter shipments declined. Dairy product imports were also greater, except for cheese and butter.

Belgium exported a record 37 million pounds of dried milk in 1962, an increase of 5 percent over 1961. The Netherlands continued to be the principal market, taking 13 million pounds, followed by West Germany (7 million pounds), the United Kingdom and Chile (3 million each), and Denmark (2 million).

Exports of cheese rose from 5 million pounds to 14 million pounds, of which 10 million went to West Germany. Italy, which purchased only 46,000 pounds in 1961, took more than 2 million pounds in 1962.

Canned milk sales also set a record—3 million pounds compared with 600,000 pounds in 1961—more than half of which went to Greece.

Butter shipments were down sharply from 21 million pounds to 9 million pounds. Only the United Kingdom increased its purchases in 1962—to 2 million pounds from 1 million pounds in the earlier year.

Imports of dried and canned milk were up, but those of cheese and butter were down from 1961. Dried milk imports rose from 7 million pounds to 20 million pounds. Principal suppliers were the United Kingdom (12 million pounds), France (5 million pounds), and the Netherlands (2 million pounds).

Canned milk imports were 7 million pounds, compared with 6 million pounds, and were supplied almost entirely by the Netherlands.

Imports of cheese of 73 million pounds were 4 million pounds less than in 1961. Most of the cheese imports are the hard types. Of total cheese imports in 1962, about 62 percent came from the Netherlands, the rest mostly from Switzerland, France, and West Germany.

Belgium imported only 104,000 pounds of butter in 1962 (265,000 pounds last year), most of which came from the Netherlands and West Germany.

Spain To Reduce Cotton Stocks

Stocks of cotton in Spain are expected to fall substantially this season from the record 360,000 bales (500 pounds gross) on hand on August 1, 1962. This may be attributed to a sharp decline in imports from the substantial level of most recent years, and to continued large consumption. Spain's domestic cotton crop this season—around 485,000 bales from 818,000 acres—equaled the record 1961-62 crop from 805,000 acres.

Imports this season may not exceed 30,000 to 40,000 bales, compared with 352,000 in 1961-62 and an annual average of 303,000 during the past 5 seasons. The small imports this season stem from the unusually large beginning carryover and a record high domestic crop. Only 6,000 bales were imported during the first half of the current season, mostly from the United States.

Spain has authorized exports of about 125,000 bales of cotton from the 1961-62 crop. However, only part of the quota may be exported. Much of the cotton has been seriously damaged by water. Reportedly, sizable quantities of government-owned cotton from the 1961-62 crop were removed from warehouses and stored in the open to make room for the current crop.

Cotton consumption during the first half (August-January) of 1962-63 totaled an estimated 275,000 bales, moderately less than the 290,000 used in the first 6 months of last season. Consumption in the full 1962-63 season is now expected to decline around 5 percent from the all-time high of 620,000 in 1961-62. Of special note is the rising trend of cotton consumption in Spain in recent years, accompanied by a decline in mill use of manmade fibers. In the past 5 seasons consumption of cotton rose 31 percent, while output of manmade fibers fell 28 percent.

The Spanish Government has announced that price support to farmers in the form of a purchase program for the portion of the 1963-64 crop of upland type cotton destined for domestic consumption and the entire production of extra-long staple cotton will be available at rates which prevailed this season. However, the exportable surplus of upland type cotton, up to 20 percent of the total crop, will be supported at a much lower rate through a purchase program of the Ministry of Agriculture. For this cotton, purchase prices to farmers have been announced at the equivalent of 8.91, 8.17, and 6.71 U.S. cents per pound, respectively, at the ginneries for First, Second, and Third grades of seed (unginned) cotton. The baled cotton will in turn be purchased from ginners for export at prices based on a

rate of 23.05 U.S. cents per pound for Good Middling 1-inch quality.

U.S. Imports Less Cotton Linters

U.S. imports of cotton linters, mostly felting qualities, amounted to 65,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in the first 7 months (August-February) of the 1962-63 season. This figure compares with 130,000 bales imported in the same period a year earlier. Linters imports during February totaled 10,000 bales, compared with 9,000 in January and 25,000 in February 1962.

Principal sources of the 1962-63 imports, with comparable 1961-62 figures in parentheses, were: Mexico 40,000 bales (78,000); USSR 9,000 (17,000); Brazil 7,000 (14,000); Guatemala 5,000 (4,000); and El Salvador 3,000 (3,000).

Reports of Fungus on Chinese Soybeans

Recent Japanese imports of Chinese soybeans have been infested with a fungus, *Sclerotium,* according to trade sources. The infestation is reported to be resulting in losses to importers of about 2,300 yen ($6.39) per metric ton, because of the additional cost of hand screening and other operations to process the beans.

At a recent meeting the importing firms decided that no action would be taken on soybeans which have arrived so far, but they are hoping for a substantial price reduction for the May-July shipments. While two or three importing firms have expressed a desire to cancel future contracts, Japanese importers and processors in general appear anxious to fulfill the terms of the 5-year arrangement for trade in Chinese soybeans. Moreover, the "miso" processors reportedly prefer Chinese soybeans to those from other sources.

Chile's Rapeseed, Sunflowerseed Production

Chile's 1962-63 sunflower crop is provisionally estimated at 27,600 short tons, down one-fourth from last year's crop of 36,800 tons and almost one-fourth below the 39,600 tons produced in 1960-61.

Rapeseed production in Chile, which in 1961-62 amounted to 31,500 tons, is now estimated at 38,600 tons, an increase of nearly one-fourth from a year ago, but about 6 percent below the 1960-61 crop of 41,000.

Japan Buys U.S. Safflowerseed

Japanese trade sources report that contracts have been let for imports of 60,000 tons of U.S. safflowerseed for July-September shipment. Reportedly, the purchases have been made because of an improvement in the safflower-soybean price ratio, an anticipated smaller domestic rapeseed crop, and the possibility that liberalization of soybean and other edible oils will be postponed until 1964.

Japan has been the major market outlet for U.S. safflowerseed for the past several years. The prospects for importing sizable quantities again appear favorable, and Japanese imports seem likely to approach 100,000 tons in 1963.

JAPAN'S IMPORTS OF SAFFLOWER SEED

Country of origin	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
	Short tons	*Short tons*	*Short tons*	*Short tons*	*Short tons*
United States	29,441	67,052	101,736	78,986	69,581
Canada	——	8,835	2,774	1,023	N.A.
Others	——	——	——	345	105
Total	29,441	75,887	104,510	80,354	69,686

Canada Now Growing Russian Sunflowerseed

Some Russian varieties of sunflowers have a higher oil content than Canadian varieties, but are susceptible to rust, according to results of tests the Canadian Department of Agriculture made last year and announced recently. Yields are not greatly reduced, however.

Canadian officials feel that some Russian varieties could be successfully grown in Canada, but the sale for seeding purposes is not licensed. However, the seed could be imported, grown, and crushed.

Seven Russian varieties were tested in 11 prairie locations along with the Canadian hybrid, Advent. Average results of these tests are as follows:

Item	*Unit*	*Russian "Vniimk 6540"*	*Canadian "Advent"*
Seed yield	lb. per acre	961	1,024
Oil yield	percent	39	33
Height	inches	60	47
Length of growing season	days to blooming	101	93
Susceptibility to rust		yes	no

Adaptability of these Russian varieties to Canada may be limited by their susceptibility to frost and difficulty in harvesting the taller plants.

Paraguay Produces More Tung Nuts

Paraguay's 1962-63 tung crop is estimated at 15,000 metric tons compared with 11,000 tons produced in 1961.

This quantity, consisting largely of kernels and some whole nuts as such, is expected to yield about 3,800 tons of oil which will be marketed between August 1, 1963, and July 31, 1964. Paraguay has in recent years been the world's third largest exporter of tung oil. At current export prices of about $800 per ton this year's crop is worth over $3 million.

Spain Limits Olive Oil Exports

The Spanish Government announced, through its Official State Bulletin of March 2, 1963, that olive oil exports henceforth will be limited to 5,000 metric tons per month. This is an effort to prevent excessive increases in domestic olive oil prices which might occur as a result of the short domestic supply and high export prices.

Monthly exports of olive oil from Spain last year ranged from about 11,500 tons in February and March to 3,000 in August and September. During October, exports amounted to about 9,550 tons.

Exports of olive oil from Spain during November-October 1962-63 are expected to drop sharply to about 50,000 tons. Exports were 83,578 tons in 1961-62 and 149,138 tons in 1960-61. The major markets for Spanish olive oil, together with their percentages of total exports in recent years, were: Italy (50); United States (15); Brazil (10).

Iceland's Fish Oils Exports Up

Iceland's exports of fish and fish liver oils in 1962 totaled 72,538 short tons, more than double the 35,197 tons exported in 1961. This increase enabled Iceland to surpass the United States and rank second to Peru as the world's leading supplier of fish oil in 1962.

The considerable increase in herring oil exports was due to the excellent 1962 herring landings. With the adoption of new fishing techniques, the herring fisheries have almost become a year-round operation. The extended season, location of new fishing grounds, and a possible peak in herring abundance have all contributed to more herring for reduction into meal and oil.

The availabilities of redfish oil and cod-liver oil, dependent upon the winter groundfish season, were reduced, owing to inclement weather during the spring, the long trawler tie-up, and the reduction in the landings of ocean perch.

ICELAND'S EXPORTS OF FISH AND FISH LIVER OILS

Country of Destination	1959	1960	1961	1962 [1]
Cod liver oil (all types) [2]:	*Short tons*	*Short tons*	*Short tons*	*Short tons*
Czech.	780	1,288	864	1,554
Denmark	467	607	332	754
Finland	439	430	424	330
Germany, W.	89	90	320	93
Netherlands	3,769	4,862	493	182
Norway	2,653	241	1,096	884
Poland	220	441	805	165
U.K.	354	2,157	513	101
U.S.	1,203	744	855	829
Others	587	349	856	964
Total	10,561	11,209	6,558	5,856
Herring oil:				
Canada	—	—	6,365	10,866
Denmark	—	1,270	—	2,438
Germany, W.	280	1,289	1,115	5,530
Netherlands	—	2,158	882	2,160
Norway	—	25,265	1,659	20,536
Spain	297	83	—	—
Sweden	981	1,415	3,347	10,050
U.K.	—	8,450	14,190	15,085
Others	[3] 680	—	—	—
Total	2,238	39,930	27,558	66,665
Redfish oil:				
Germany, W.	—	488	71	([4])
Norway	6,119	2,840	865	—
Others	—	69	145	17
Total	6,119	3,397	1,081	17
Grand total	18,918	54,536	35,197	72,538

[1] Preliminary. [2] Includes non-freezing, non-destearinated and industrial cod-liver oil. [3] Finland. [4] Less than 1.

Nigerian Peanut Purchases Up One-Fourth

Commercial peanut purchases by licensed buying agents in Northern Nigeria by March 7 of the 1962-63 season totaled 836,578 long tons of shelled nuts, one-fourth more than last year as of the corresponding date.

Comparable data as of March 7 for the two seasons are as follows (in long tons):

	November-October 1961-62	November-October 1962-63
Purchases	665,863	836,578
Evacuation to ports		
By rail	172,802	153,143
By road	28,818	41,653
Deliveries to oil mills	56,448	57,448
Deterioration		1
Balance of stock held	407,795	584,333

Source: Northern Region Licensed Buying Agents Committee

Delays in rail shipment continue to be troublesome and have retarded some ships in completing their cargoes. Total peanut purchases for the entire 1962-63 season have been estimated at a record 850,000 tons, compared with 685,519 in 1961-62 (*Foreign Agriculture*, March 4, 1963).

Ceylon Exports More Copra And Coconut Oil

Ceylon's exports of copra in 1962 were nearly one-third greater than in 1961. Increased shipments to India, Pakistan, and Poland more than offset the decline in exports to Mainland China.

Coconut oil shipments in 1962 increased by 11 percent from 1961. Greater quantities of oil were shipped to the USSR, United Kingdom, and Western Germany. But exports to Poland and Canada were substantially smaller.

CEYLON'S COPRA AND COCONUT OIL EXPORTS BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION

Country of destination	1961	1962
COPRA	*Long tons*	*Long tons*
Burma	4,806	4,745
China, Mainland	10,650	3,000
India	35,262	58,270
Iran	10	—
Iraq	53	40
Pakistan	3,413	4,248
Other Asia	793	229
Poland	—	1,850
Total	54,987	72,382
COCONUT OIL		
Canada	24,295	16,208
Germany, West	1,951	4,554
Italy	11,009	11,349
China, Mainland	10,096	11,988
Netherlands	5,105	6,109
Pakistan	11,447	12,570
Poland	5,188	2,874
United Kingdom	3,409	8,218
U.S.S.R.	2,337	8,196
Others	16,996	20,105
Total	91,833	102,171

Compiled from official sources.

Israel Imports More Oil-Bearing Materials

Israel's imports of edible vegetable oils and oil-bearing materials in the 1962-63 marketing year are expected to rise by nearly one-fourth from the previous year. The expected rise will be accounted for largely by increased imports of soybean oil from the United States under Title I, P.L. 480. Soybeans from the United States, estimated at 7.3 million bushels, will account for most of the oil-bearing materials that Israel will receive.

The increasing demand for imports of edible vegetable oils reflects a decline in production of domestic oil-bearing crops as well as an increase in the per capita consumption. Since Israel discontinued the rationing of fats and oils early in 1959, per capita consumption rose from 31 pounds in 1959 to an estimated 40 pounds in 1962, according to calculations by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Domestic crushing of indigenous and imported oil-bearing materials accounts for most of the supply. Israel's crushing industry, operating at about 75 percent of its annual 330,000-ton capacity, is hampered by a limited domestic demand for oilcake since expansion of the poultry and dairy industries has been slow.

ISRAEL: OIL-BEARING MATERIALS AND OILS, PRODUCTION AND IMPORTS [1]

Item	Production		Imports	
	1961-62	1962-63 [2]	1961-62	1962-63 [2]
	Short tons	*Short tons*	*Short tons*	*Short tons*
Oil-bearing materials:				
Cottonseed	25,800	28,650	—	—
Peanuts [3]	16,000	13,700	—	770
Soybeans	—	—	212,750	220,000
Sunflower seed	4,750	1,050	390	—
Olives	22,900	5,300	—	—
Copra	—	—	2,975	6,600
Total	69,450	48,700	216,115	227,370
Oil equivalent	—	—	38,050	41,600
Edible vegetable oils [4]:				
Cottonseed	4,025	3,935	1,320	3,310
Peanut	825	—	—	—
Soybean	—	—	21,210	29,760
Sunflower	910	—	—	—
Olive	550	275	—	—
Copra	—	—	—	—
Total	6,310	4,210	22,530	33,070
Grand total (oil equivalent)			60,585	74,670

[1] Marketing year October 1 through September 30. [2] Preliminary. [3] Unshelled basis. [4] Produced from domestic material.

Cyprus' Tobacco Trade Declines

Cyprus' trade in unmanufactured tobacco and cigarettes further declined during 1962.

Exports of leaf tobacco last year, at 1.0 million pounds, were one-third below the 1.5 million pounds exported in 1961. Reduced shipments to the United States more than offset increased exports to Czechoslovakia. Exports to the United States amounted to .4 million pounds, compared with 1.1 million in 1961. Shipments to Czechoslovakia totaled 443,000 pounds, or double the 223,000 pounds in 1961, and four times larger than the 1960 level of 106,000 pounds.

Cyprus' imports of leaf tobacco last year, at 1.1 million pounds, were also about one-fourth smaller than 1.5 million pounds imported in 1961. Reduced imports from the United States, Greece, Turkey, and India were more than enough to offset stepped-up takings from Southern Rhodesia and Canada.

Imports from the United States, at 517,000 pounds, were down 33 percent from the 1961 level of 744,000 pounds. Takings from Greece totaled 114,000 pounds, compared with 203,000 for 1961. Imports from Southern Rhodesia however rose to 271,000 pounds from 238,000 in 1961 and 1962 imports from Canada totaled 47,000 pounds, compared with only 19,000 for the previous year.

Cyprus' imports of cigarettes last year, at 65,000 pounds, were about one-eighth the 1961 level of 537,000 pounds and only 5 percent of the 1960 high of 1.3 million. Reduced imports from the United Kingdom account for the decline.

Imports from the United Kingdom last year amounted to only 22,000 pounds, compared with 512,000 pounds in 1961 and 1.2 million in 1960. Imports from the United States rose to 24,000 pounds from 9,000 pounds in 1961. A downward trend has been shown in imports from Greece.

Rhodesian Cigarette Firm Expands

The cigarette factory of Rothmans in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, reportedly plans to double its present production capacity for the purpose of expanding export sales. The construction for increasing the capacity of the firm is to begin almost immediately, according to the chairman of the firm.

Irish Filter-Tipped Cigarette Sales Up

Sales of filter-tipped cigarettes in Ireland during 1962 represented about 15 percent of total cigarette sales, compared with about 10 percent during 1961. Filter-tip sales in the city of Dublin alone last year accounted for about 25 percent of total sales and further gains are expected for 1963.

Yugoslavian Tobacco Products Down

Output of tobacco products in Yugoslavia during 1962, at 49.8 million pounds, was 1.5 percent below the 1961 high of 50.5 million.

Cigarette output, which accounts for about 99.5 percent of Yugoslavia's total production, was about 49.6 million pounds in 1962 compared with 50.3 million in 1961 and 44.4 million in 1960. Production of other tobacco products during 1961 amounted to only 243,000 pounds, and probably did not exceed this level during 1962.

Singapore's Cigarette Output Increases

Cigarette output in Singapore during the first half of 1962 totaled 2.14 million pounds—up 5 percent from the 2.04 million produced in January-June 1961. If the percentage gain continued through the last half of 1962, output for full calendar year 1962 approached 4.40 million pounds, compared with 4.17 million for 1961.

More Sugar Planned by Mauritius

The 1963 sugar crop on Mauritius Island has thus far escaped serious weather damage and the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture has estimated provisionally that the harvest which begins in May and June will be in the neighborhood of 670,000 short tons. If this prediction is realized, 1963 will set a record for sugar production on Mauritius. Last year's harvest equaled 605,000 tons.

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Brazilian Piassava Production Increasing

Brazilian production of piassava, a palm-type fiber used in brooms and brushes, has been variously estimated for 1961 from about 25 million pounds to the officially-reported 38 million pounds. The 1962 crop is believed to be 5 to 10 percent larger than the preceding one. About 85 percent of the crop is grown in the State of Bahia and practically all of the balance in Amazonas.

The United Kingdom and Portugal take about half of Brazil's exports of piassava, and West Germany and the United States, another fourth to third of the total.

BRAZILIAN EXPORTS OF PIASSAVA, 1961 AND JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 1962

Destination	1961 Cal. Year	1962 Jan.-Sept.
	1,000 lbs.	*1,000 lbs.*
Belgium and Luxembourg	575	216
Germany, West	858	994
Netherlands	395	62
Portugal	1,501	1,371
United Kingdom	1,609	791
Other Europe	375	265
United States	644	646
Other Countries	172	130
Total	6,129	4,475

Source: Bank of Brazil.

U.S. Big Buyer of Rwanda-Burundi Coffee

Over the past 10 years the United States has purchased about 85 percent of all Rwanda and Burundi's coffee exports. This coffee is of the Arabica type. Preliminary data indicate that these two east African countries shipped about 340,000 bags (132.3 lbs.) to the United States in 1962 out of a total of about 383,000 bags exported.

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13 Paraguay Produces More Tung Nuts
13 Spain Limits Olive Oil Exports
14 Iceland's Fish Oils Exports Up
14 Nigerian Peanut Purchases Up One-Fourth
14 Ceylon Exports More Copra and Coconut Oil
14 Israel Imports More Oil-Bearing Materials

Fruits, Vegetables, and Nuts
10 Chile's Canned Fruit Pack Increasing
10 Argentine Dried Prune Pack Smaller
10 Argentina Has Larger Fruit Pack
11 Small Raisin Pack in Argentina
11 Japan Sets Orange, Grapefruit Imports
11 1963 Chilean Dried Prune Pack Equals 1962

Grains, Feeds, Pulses, and Seeds
11 Switzerland Imports More Rice
11 Japan Will Buy Pulses

Livestock and Meat Products
11 Canada Announces 1962 Wool Payment
12 Ethiopia Improving Meat Export Industry

Sugar, Fibers, and Tropical Products
15 More Sugar Planned by Mauritius
16 Brazilian Piassava Production Increasing
16 U.S. Big Buyer of Rwanda-Burundi Coffee

Tobacco
15 Cyprus' Tobacco Trade Declines
15 Rhodesian Cigarette Firm Expands
15 Irish Filter Tipped Cigarette Sales Up
15 Yugoslavian Tobacco Products Down
15 Singapore's Cigarette Output Increases